RESOLUTION NO. 15-1641

INTRODUCED: October 3, 2006
ADOPTED: October 24, 2006

COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: Public Safety Committee

SUBJECT: Special Appropriation to the FY07 Operating Budget
State’s Attorney’s Office
Family Violence Unit, $81,400

Background

1. Section 308 of the Montgomery County Charter provides that a special appropriation: a) may be made at any time after public notice by news release; b) must state that the special appropriation is necessary to meet an unforeseen disaster or other emergency or to act without delay in the public interest; c) must specify the revenues necessary to finance it; and d) must be approved by no fewer than six members of the Council.

2. The Montgomery County Police Department is proactively and aggressively investigating crimes in two areas: computer facilitated crimes against children and sex offender registry violations. There are a growing number of crimes against children being detected and local law enforcement has been asked to investigate more of these cases. Changes in State law have increased the required registry checks, which has increased the number of violations.

3. The State’s Attorney’s Office is experiencing an influx of cases related to the increased work in the areas outlined above. It is important for State’s Attorney’s staff to be involved in the cases from the beginning stages and to keep up with best practices in this changing area. As a result, the State’s Attorney’s Office requires additional staff and training to quickly and thoroughly monitor and prosecute these cases.

4. The State’s Attorney’s Office is requesting an additional Assistant State’s Attorney and a Victim Witness Coordinator to be assigned to the Family Violence Unit, as well as funds for specialized training relating to the complex nature of these crimes.
5. The State’s Attorney’s Office FY07 Operating Budget would require the following FY07 Operating Budget appropriation increase to meet the increased workload. This level of funding is based on the positions starting on November 1, 2006:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personnel Services</th>
<th>Operating Expenses</th>
<th>Capital Outlay</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Source of Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$74,400</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$81,400</td>
<td>General Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Reserves</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Notice of a public hearing was given, and a public hearing was held.

**Action**

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

The FY07 Operating Budget of the State’s Attorney’s Office is amended, and a special appropriation is approved as follows:

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The Council declares that this appropriation is necessary to act without delay in the public interest.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council